



Weekly Bulletin

Friday 8 May 2020



THE ORIGIN OF MOTHER'S DAY

Mrs Janet Heyden from Leichhardt, New South Wales is not a name that you're likely to recognise, but her name goes down in history as the person who introduced gift giving for Mother's Day in Australia.

In 1924, Mrs Heyden was concerned about the lonely, and forgotten mothers in Sydney's Newington State Hospital when she visited an old friend regularly. She started a campaign throughout Sydney asking for donations so she could buy presents for these old ladies.

Newspapers took up the appeal helping to spread the word, while she made personal requests to many of Sydney's leading businesses. The response was incredible with donations ranging from talcum powder and soap, to scarves and mittens, as well as confectionery and fruit gifts.

Janet is quoted as saying "The late Alderman Dyer, who was Mayor of Leichhardt, used to drive me around to the old mothers of the district with my gift parcels. For seven years in succession the appeal through the newspapers made sure that hundreds of mothers who would otherwise have been forgotten received a Mother's Day gift. Today, of course, a gift for mother is just a natural thing."

Mrs Heyden continued to visit the lonely and forgotten mothers in Newington right up until her death in 1960. It was then her daughter spoke of her mother's disappointment by the commercialism of Mother's Day and the loss of its original meaning ... but at least the "commercial interest provided publicity which reminded people of the occasion."

Janet Heyden, however, was not the founder of Mother's Day, as it was originated by Miss Anne Jarvis, of Philadelphia. It was while she was laying a wreath of flowers on her mother's grave, she came up with the idea that it would be better to wear a white flower in honour of a living mother than to wait and pay tribute at her grave later on.

In 1908, the third anniversary of her mother's death, she handed every person in her local church a white flower as they entered. The movement grew, and in May 1913 the Congress of the United States declared in favour of a national day. Since then the commemoration of Mother's Day on the second Sunday in May has spread throughout the civilised world.

So, this year, take a moment to remember the real reason behind Mother's Day from both Annie Jarvis and Janet Heyden as time is taken to honour Mothers - and everything they do - with a card, a gift, a phone call, or maybe even breakfast in bed!



OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

'BEAR HUNT' UPDATE

When you are walking around your suburban streets, don't forget to look for the carefully placed 'wildlife' that are popping up everywhere, at a social distance of course! Inspired by the much loved 1989 children's book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', written by UK author Michael Rosen, stuffed toys are being placed in all manner of nooks and crannies to give children a fun and safe activity while walking around their neighbourhood with parents.

Anne Meade has spotted a friend or two in her neighbourhood:



'Frontline Workers!'



'Tigger & Friends!'



'Guard Dog!'

So, if you see a furry friend, why not take a snap or two and send it to the Club – I can feel an exhibition coming on.....

'We're going on a bear hunt, we're going to catch a big one...'

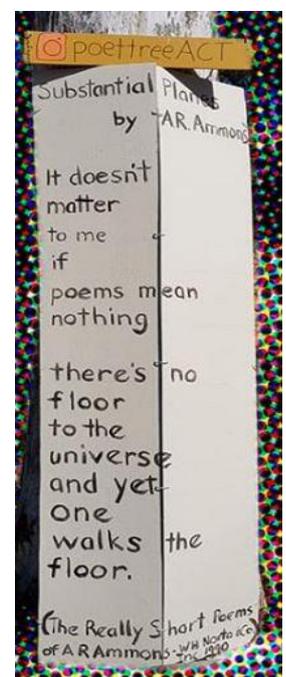
POETTREE ACT

A *Eucalyptus mannifera* (Brittle Gum) sharing poetry with the world

Along with furry friends, there is some local creativity which stops you in your tracks. Each week a new poem appears attached to a front yard gumtree – bold print, a variety of different poets and messages – a quirky addition to the suburban 'streetscape'!

This week's poem, Substantial Planes, comes from A R Ammons (Archie Randolph), 1926-2001. He didn't get off to a brilliant start with his poetry, selling a massive 16 copies of his first book of poems, Ommateum, with Doxology (1955). By the end though things were going a lot better. He won the US National Book Award for Poetry in 1973 for his Collected Poems and again in 1993 for Garbage. He won most of the major US poetry prizes, a MacArthur "genius award" as well as the Tanning Prize for "outstanding and proven mastery in the art of poetry"

Poettreeact (Instagram)



"Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought and the thought has found words." – Robert Frost



SPOTLIGHT ON

'DISCOVER CANBERRA' WALKING GROUP



When this activity first commenced, I invariably heard at least one or two members comment that they had not previously been to that destination. This led me to name the activity **'DISCOVER CANBERRA WALKS'** and some years later we are still discovering new places to visit.

In 2015 I suggested we go to Thredbo for a couple of nights, and while there ride the chairlift and walk to the summit of Mt Kosciuszko. When I was asked the destination of our next trip, I was also asked to extend it.

This has now become an annual event which many of the regular walkers look forward to. We have been to Thredbo, Batehaven, Perthville (Bathurst), Gerringong, Dubbo and Forbes. Tumbarumba was to be our destination in May this year, but it has been 'put on hold' until all COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted and activities of the Club resume.



Batehaven



Dubbo



Field of Poppies

We visited the Australian War Memorial in 2018 to see the field of poppies, commemorating the 62,000 Australian lives lost in the First World War.

Also, several members have attended Enlighten each time the Club has organised the Vikings bus to take us to this event.

Ken, one of our walkers, has organised mid-week lunches. These often involve 4WD expeditions with a stop for morning tea followed by lunch at a country pub. So far, we have visited Jugiong, Araluen, Tarago, Batemans Bay and Gunning. Once again, the happy band of walkers look forward to the lifting all restrictions and wait for Ken to let us know where our next adventure will be.

Anne Meade

FLASHBACK FRIDAY



Firestorm Story Tree – Sunday 2 November 2014

Another glorious morning for our Sunday "Discover Canberra" Walking Group. They met at Kambah shops and proceeded to walk through the streets of Kambah admiring some lovely gardens. They also went to the 2003 Bush Fire Memorial. This very impressive remembrance site was organized by the Mt Taylor Estate residents Assoc and is worth visiting!

Facebook – November 6 2014

Photo: Cheryl Towers

THE 'STORY' BEHIND THE FIRESTORM STORY TREE

Set in a small area of parkland at the end of Ammon Place Kambah, an ancient Red Box tree has been transformed into a visual record of settlement of the local area. The tree dates back to the 1830s and was one of the few in the immediate area left standing after the devastating firestorm swept through on 18 January 2003.



Commissioned by the Mount Taylor Estate Residents Association, the tree's carvings depict various stages in the life of the old tree up to the time of the firestorm. A soaring eagle at the top of the tree represents the regeneration of the community. It was unveiled in 9 October 2005, and the tree has become a symbol of the Mount Taylor Estate community's spirit and resilience.

The wood carver was Bryan Carrick and others from Auspicious Arts. The story starts at the base, showing the aboriginal time of ownership, then moves into white man's development of the land and dwellings, the event of the firestorm and the damage caused and then the renewal, regrowth and rebuilding.



Stonework surrounds the tree, with a curved wall containing ceramic tiles painted by residents, friends and interested people depicting certain aspects of the fire, early scenes of the area and tiles describing events and who helped in the making of this memorial.

Residents at the time of the 2003 bushfires contributed their stories and photos of the tragedy to a time capsule, which was sealed in the middle of 2007. The time capsule will be opened on 18 January 2023 on the 20th anniversary of the bushfires.



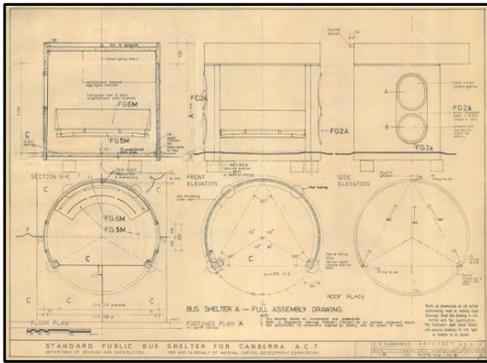
The Storytree is located in between Ammon and Bolden Places, off Sulwood Drive in Kambah.

'BUNKER' BUS SHELTERS



Scattered across Canberra, it is hard not to notice the unusual yet consistently tasteful bus shelters. Iconic to Canberra, these squat little concrete shelters have made their mark as historically significant items due to their unique characteristic attributes. Providing seating and shelter from whatever Canberra weather may arrive and a porthole to see approaching buses they are a design classic.

These concrete bus shelters were designed in 1974 by architect Clem Cummings, who first moved to Canberra from Queensland to attend the Royal Military College at Duntroon. The project was a unique opportunity for the Canberra-based architect, who set up his own practice in 1971.

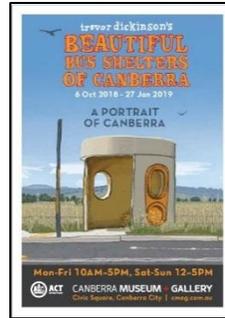


An original plan for the bus shelters by Clem Cummings, 1974

By 1975 the Government was preparing to install the first 100 concrete bus shelters, which were part of a broader plan to expand Canberra's bus network as the city grew. The first shelter was installed on Adelaide Avenue and over the next five years over 470 shelters dotted the Canberra landscape.

The original design was continually tweaked and from 1976, a special concrete coating was used to make the shelters more resistant to vandalism. Though long-lasting, many of the remaining shelters are missing an original design feature. The fibreglass windows on either side of the shelters were repeatedly targeted by vandals and efforts to replace them were eventually abandoned.

Since 2007, 64 concrete shelters have been relocated, to make way for newer advertising shelters that will be maintained by a private company. But there are no plans to remove the shelters from the city completely as they have been built to last and will be kept while they survive. These little retro shelters are a piece of our street furniture and are very much a Canberra symbol.



In 2018, artist Trevor Dickinson highlighted their beauty and personality with an exhibition of his unique drawings of these endearing pieces of urban architecture.

But, despite their iconic status, none of the concrete bus shelters have been heritage listed.

SOME LOCAL TRIVIA:

Why the street name Athllon Drive?

Athllon Drive commemorates the name of Athllon Homestead in Tuggeranong which was established by Henry Thomas Oldfield. The name Athllon is made up of the first letters of Henry and Martha Oldfield's six children – A=Alf, T=Ted, H=Harry, L=Les, L=Lyle, O=Oldfield and N=Nancy.

Reference: www.planning.act.gov.au

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA QUIZ

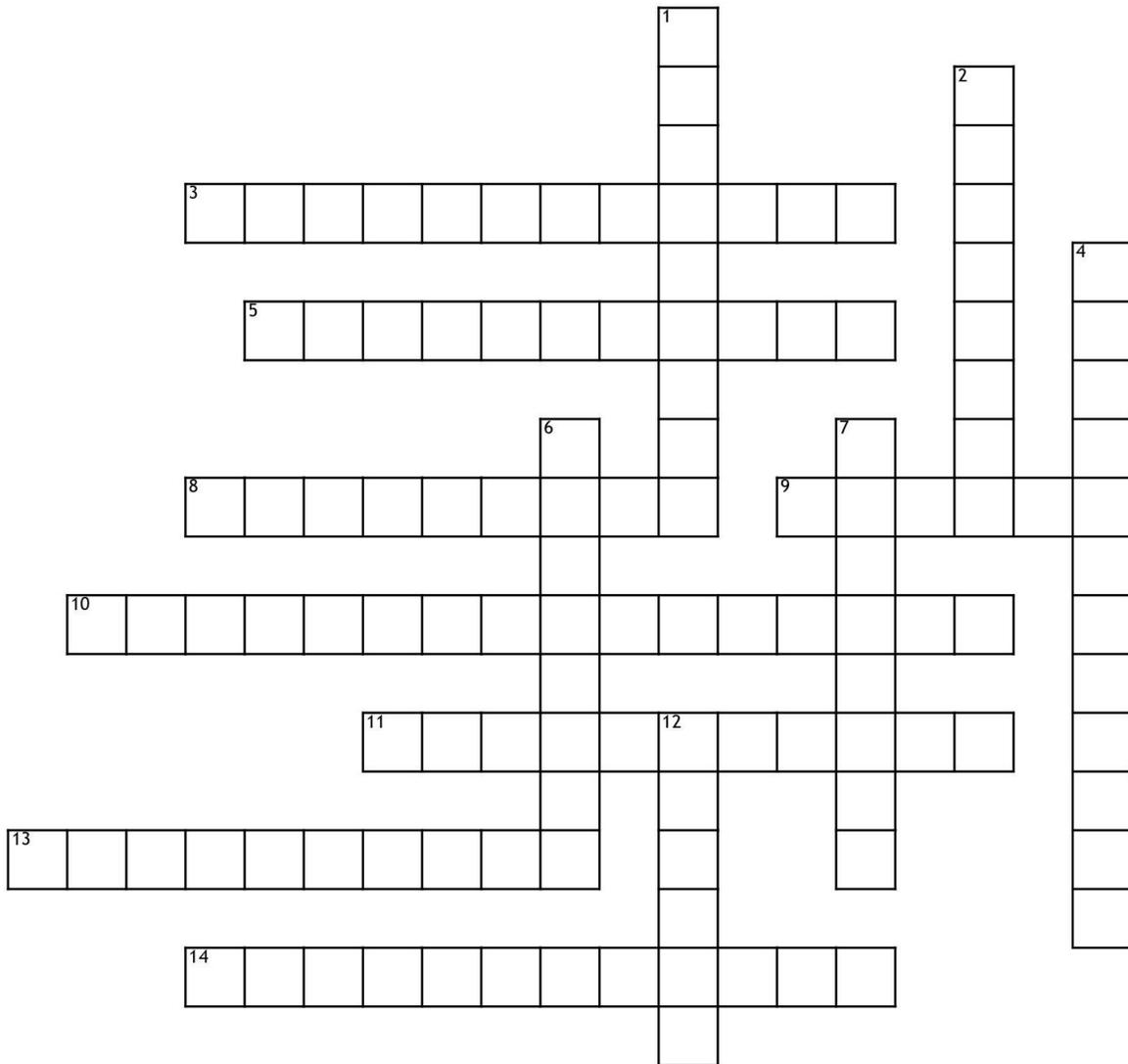
1. Tomorrow Never Dies
2. Rook
3. Frank Hornby
4. Lace
5. Tropical Fish
6. Five





'OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD'

Answers to all clues are in the Bulletin!



Across

3. Symbol representing regeneration
5. What are 'popping' up all over Canberra
8. How many Bus Shelters have been relocated
9. Introduced Mothers Day in Australia
10. What Club's Walking Group does
11. Included with the Firestorm Story Tree
13. Walking Group destination
14. Bus Shelter designer

Down

1. US poetry prize
2. Family name associated with Athllon Drive
4. Firestorm Story Tree Wood Carver
6. Bus shelter material
7. Going on a
12. AR Ammons first name

Crossword Solution in next week's Bulletin

